

## The Morgenthau Plan and Kaufman's 'Germany Must Perish!': A Comparison (Part I)

As I intimated in my previous article on the subject of the probable derivation of the Morgenthau Plan of 1944 from the plan to exterminate Germans that was advocated by Theodor Nathan Kaufman's 1941 book '*Germany Must Perish!*' (1) It is necessary to perform a textual comparison of the concordance of these two documents bearing in mind that scenario that I previously outlined.

To briefly recap: I suggested that as Kaufman's '*Germany Must Perish!*' was sent to major officials and journalists in 1941 with a highly successfully marketing campaign that caused reviews in major periodicals of the book to appear coupled with the fact that Goebbels made it a centrepiece of the Third Reich anti-jewish propaganda effort. It would not be unreasonable to assert that the three parties who had a central hand in conceiving and advocating the Morgenthau Plan; i.e. Henry Morgenthau Jr, Harry Dexter White and Soviet Intelligence (with their leader in the USA being Rudy Baker [nee Rudolph Blum]), had read or were very aware of Kaufman's otherwise inconsequential book '*Germany Must Perish!*'

Further I pointed out that the book's proposed campaign of revenge and extermination by the sterilization of the Germans played nicely into the feelings that were elicited in all three parties given the atrocity propaganda that was a staple of Allied and Soviet propaganda and the fact that all three of the parties concerned were Jewish.

I also argued that the probable origin of the Morgenthau Plan lies in Soviet Intelligence; who Harry Dexter White worked for, and Morgenthau's central crime was his continued advocacy of the plan rather than its composition per se. Although the differential is slight it still should be made in the interests of historical accuracy as we should not ascribe to Morgenthau the authorship of the plan that bears his name per se (although he may well have made some minor adjustments to it), but we should ascribe to him the implementation of the plan which he cannot but have known would lead to the deaths of millions of innocent people across Europe.

I suggested Soviet Intelligence and White used Kaufman's plan in '*Germany Must Perish!*' as a base for the Morgenthau Plan, but instead of the extermination of Germans they sought to create such a dire socio-economic situation in occupied Germany that the Allies would be discredited by their treatment under capitalistic so-called liberal democracies and thus it would pave the way for communist revolution as the '*working class would have nothing to lose but their chains.*'

Now in order to understand the logic behind this thinking among the Soviet intelligence community as well as in White's mind: we have to remind ourselves of the fact that we are dealing here with convinced Marxists who sought to apply Marx's theories as if they were Hegel's '*end of philosophy*'. They saw Marx; as many Marxists still do, as being the greatest philosopher and thinker in human history whose ideas are; to paraphrase Marx's own critique of his fellow Jewish socialist Lassalle's economic ideas, an '*iron law of history*'.

This means that Marxist; past and present, will always attempt to frame their policy ideas within the context of their understanding of Marxism. When we understand this: we can begin to see the cynical logic behind the Morgenthau Plan.

Marx argued; you see, that the driving force of history was the interplay of economic forces and the ownership of the means of producing goods and services (i.e. the means of production). This meant that every idea and concept that had evolved in human history had a specific purpose based on the economic situation of the time. This is the difference in Marxism between the base (economics) and the superstructure (religion, patriotism, philosophy, identity, gender roles and so on) and is the rational behind the frequent Marxist claims that anything that isn't Marxist is based on a '*social construct*' as opposed to an objective material foundation.

Marx reasoned that every individual who did not own the means for producing and services themselves had nothing to sell, but their ability to labour and produce goods and services for wages. This then meant that as the market for these goods and services became more competitive and new sources of capital were opened up by the internationalization of trade then the owners of the means of production (i.e. the capitalists) would be forced to look to new ways to keep and even increase their profit margins: primarily by forcing down wages.

This combined with the fact that the owners of the means of production could get more value out of the labour power of each individual worker (Marx's conception of value was that it was directly linked to the amount of labour power used as opposed to things like resource scarcity) and could produce more goods and services now with less workers due to the advancement of technology creates what Marx called the '*theory of surplus value*' and the '*law of diminishing returns*'.

In other words: due to increased competition for jobs (i.e. the capitalists need less workers hence more pressure is put on any jobs that are created/already extant being exacerbated by the influx of cheap immigrant labour) and the advance of technology the workers could be paid less for their labour power. This would mean in turn that they would have less purchasing power and would thus have to either work more or consume less.

This Marx conceived of as a continuous cycle with the capitalists continually forcing down wages thus impoverishing the wage earners more and more while also using high cost of keeping up with technological innovation and economics of scale to appropriate or force smaller less efficient competitors (the so-called petit bourgeoisie or; to put it into more understandable language, small-scale capitalists) down into the ranks of the wage earners.

This would; so Marx believed, create a situation where there was a great material (i.e. economic) distance (i.e. inequality of wealth) between the owners of the means of production and the wage earners who created this surplus value. As there would be so obvious a difference then it would create increasing solidarity among wage earners, which in turn would create what Marx called '*class consciousness*'.

Then at an undefined point the wage earners would be forced into a position where the owners of the means of production were paying them so little they could not manage to feed themselves or their families on what they were being paid. This would create increasing resentment acting as an engine to facilitate the development of this '*class consciousness*' and with the increasing

impoverishment of the wage earners; due to capitalist desire to make a profit, it would then mean that there would be a point at which the wage earners as a class would snap and revolt.

This would then in Marx's view be the start of the communist revolution.

The point of this necessary lengthy digression is simply to explain to the reader the logic behind the adaptation of the Morgenthau Plan to create the social and economic conditions necessary for communist revolution according to Marx from Kaufman's original plan to simply exterminate the German nation by sterilization.

Bearing in mind then that Marxism asserts the fact that majority of the people must be impoverished to the point of starvation to cause the formation of a political working class movement against capitalism vis-a-vis '*class consciousness*'. We can then go forward to compare Kaufman's plans to those of Morgenthau but three years later.

Now before I begin I should briefly point out that my quotes from Kaufman's text are necessarily much longer than those from Morgenthau's 1944 memorandum in large part because the former is over a hundred pages while the latter is but eight. My use of longer quotes from Kaufman is intended to demonstrate that the ideas behind the Kaufman and Morgenthau plans are essentially the same. On this score I have taken pains to separate the text of Kaufman's specific recommendation; in chapter seven of his book from his argument so that it is shown to be the result and then compared that recommendation with Morgenthau's.

Now to begin with on the subject of the first of Morgenthau's recommendations.

Kaufman states thus:

*'For not only must there be no more German wars in fact; there must not even remain the slightest possibility of one ever again occurring. A final halt to German aggression, not a temporary cessation, must be the goal of the present struggle.*

*This does not mean an armed mastery over Germany, or a peace with political or territorial adjustments, or a hope based on a defeated and repentant nation. Such settlements are not sufficiently conclusive guarantees of no more German aggressions.*

[...]

*When the day of reckoning with Germany comes, as come it will, there will be only one obvious answer. No statesmen or politician or leader responsible for post-war settlements will have the right to indulge in the personal luxury of false sentiment and specious sanctimony and declare that Germany, misled by her leaders, shall deserve the right of resurrection! He will not be permitted this time to forget so easily the bomb-blasted, earth-entombed millions of women and children who lived through a hell on earth; the bullet-ridden, tank-crushed bodies of soldiers; the many countries whose energies were sapped and resources drained. And most of*

*all, he will not be permitted to disregard the unselfish sacrifices made by the common people so that the beast that is Germany shall never roam on earth again!*

*It is a definite obligation which the world owes to those who struggled and died against the German yesterday, and to those who are fighting him again today, as it is the bounden duty of the present generation to those yet unborn, to make certain that the vicious fangs of the German serpent shall never strike again. And since the venom of those fangs derives its fatal poison not from within the body, but from the war-soul of the German, nothing else would assure humanity safety and security but that that war-soul be forever expunged, and the diseased carcass which harbours it forever removed from this world. There is no longer any alternative.'* (2)

Plus the following:

*'For it must be patent by now that while all the Germans may not approve of the means being employed by the Nazis in achieving German-world-dominion, they are practically unanimous in agreeing that that goal must, now or in the future, be definitely achieved by Germany. Were the German nations to win this war, not one German would hesitate laying claim to a share in the loot. But, losing the war, they intend to be ready to disclaim, individually, the actions taken by them collectively, under their "government." Thus they intend to escape, once again, punishment for their crimes. Yet defeat will on no account erase their desire to conquer and rule the world. There is only one way to frustrate such a desire: the goal of world-dominion must be removed from the reach of the German and the only way to accomplish that is to remove the German from the world!'* (3)

This then provides the rationale for the following recommendation by Kaufman:

*'Immediately and completely disarm the German army and have all armaments removed from German territory.'* (4)

Then compare this to Morgenthau's first recommendation:

*'It should be the aim of the Allied Forces to accomplish the complete demilitarization of Germany in the shortest possible period of time after surrender. This means completely disarming the German Army and people (including the removal or destruction of all war material), the total destruction of the whole German armament industry, and the removal or destruction of other key industries which are basic to military strength.'* (5)

It isn't difficult to see that in the above Morgenthau's recommendation on the need to; and mode of, de-militarising Germany is almost identical to Kaufman's of three year earlier and indeed; if were to borrow the logic of Norman Cohn and Umberto Eco in their fulminations against the Protocols of Zion, we could almost say that Morgenthau was plagiarizing Kaufman.

All Morgenthau did was take Kaufman's proposal and add some specificity to parts of it!

This continues when we read Kaufman next recommendation based on this same logic, which is as follows:

*'Place all German utility and heavy industrial plants under heavy guard, and replace German workers by those of Allied nationality.'*  
(6)

Compared to point B of Morgenthau's third recommendation, which is:

*'All people within the area [the Ruhr] should be made to understand that this area will not again be allowed to become an industrial area. Accordingly, all people and their families within the area having special skills or technical training should be encouraged to migrate permanently from the area and should be as widely dispersed as possible.'* (7)

Plus points B to E of Morgenthau's fourth recommendation, which are:

*'(b) by transfer of German territory and German private rights in industrial property situated in such territory to invaded countries and the international organization under the program of partition;*

*(c) by the removal and distribution among devastated countries of industrial plants and equipment situated within the International Zone and the North and South German states delimited in the section on partition;*

*(d) by forced German labor outside Germany; and*

*(e) by confiscation of all German assets of any character whatsoever outside of Germany.'* (8)

Now in the above parallel text we can see that Morgenthau has once again taken Kaufman's basic recommendation and made some practical changes to it. In order to make it achieve the goal of removing the ability of Germany to *'make war'* and also to impoverish them at the same time.

Kaufman recommends that German industrial plants (i.e. the Ruhr and to a lesser extent Silesia) be confiscated and Morgenthau envisions just this when he says that these should be unceremoniously stripped from their German owners and become the property of whichever state the territory they are located in has been gifted to or; if in the new smaller Germany, they should be the property of an *'international organization'* which will then dispose of them accordingly (i.e. to non-German owners).

We also should state that the reason that Silesia didn't factor into Morgenthau's calculations was simply because the Soviet Union was going to overrun that before the Allies did. Thus would not be a factor in any plan put together for the Allied nations.

Kaufman further recommends that German workers should be replaced with Allied ones: Morgenthau envisions just this when it tells us that the German workers should be told that they can no longer seek work at industrial factories in Germany and should be dispersed as widely as possible so that they can not; in Kaufman's words, create an industrial base for Germany again.

This is completed by Morgenthau's addition of the removal of all machinery and tangible movable assets from German factories, which are then to be redistributed to Allied countries so that they can be used by Allied workers to get Allied nations back on their feet economically.

We can thus see that once again Morgenthau's recommendations closely follow Kaufman's ideas with Morgenthau merely adding some detail and turning Kaufman's somewhat vague ideas into practical policy.

This continues when we read Kaufman's description of one of the policy ideas that he rejects. To wit:

*'A final solution: Let Germany be policed forever by an international armed force?*

*Even is such a huge undertaking were feasible life itself would not have it so. As war begets war, suppression begets rebellion. Undreamed horrors would unfold.'* (9)

Compare this to point C of Morgenthau's proposal:

*'The area should be made an international zone to be governed by an international security organization to be established by the United Nations. In governing the area the international organization should be guided by policies designed to further the above stated objectives.'* (10)

As well as Morgenthau's sixth recommendation:

*'The military administration in Germany in the initial period should be carried out with a view toward the eventual partitioning of Germany into three states.'* (11)

Now in Kaufman's work: he regards the idea of Germany being policed by an international armed force as simply being non-feasible and that it would simply lead to rebellion due to his conception that the 'German spirit' could never be crushed enough.

I would also opine that Kaufman's rejection of this alternative solution is probably partly a consequence of the time that he wrote *'Germany Must Perish!'* (i.e. from 1938 to 1940) when the Third Reich seemed unstoppable and thus an *'international armed force'* would have little practical meaning to anyone other than as a future pipe dream.

What Morgenthau does is to take Kaufman's rejected proposal and rework it into a practical basis for policy by putting an name to the *'international armed force'* of Kaufman in an *'international security organization'* under the fledgling United Nations, which then splits Germany up into three zones to be governed by different Allied powers (i.e. the United States, Britain and France) thus

helping 'de-Germanize' the Germans by severing them from each other (i.e. restricting the power of Kaufman's *bête noire* 'Pan-Germanism') and then having different Allied powers dominate them economically, politically and culturally.

Thus we can see that Morgenthau is taking what he needs from Kaufman and that means that he accepts proposals that Kaufman rejects: reworking them into practical policy once again.

We see a similar scenario unfold when we compare Kaufman's ideas about the re-education of the German people to what Morgenthau wrote.

Kaufman states as follows:

*'If Hitler was able to make such rapid strides in resurrecting again the monstrosity that is Germanism, it was only because the German people, long before his birth, had already become completely instilled with each and every principle and precept, with every yearning and desire which he himself, later, came merely to express and advocate. The poisonous wine of destruction has long before been distilled; Hitler is merely the agent decanting the poisonous fluid from its bottle, which is the German war-soul, into the jug that is world humanity. In detailing those ingredients which combine to constitute the toxic formula of Germanism the author shall quote, wherever confirmation of his statements may be deemed advisable, principally from German sources. For after all no one can explain the German so well as he himself. He has made no secret of his character, his ambitions and his intentions. By his acts he has himself bared his heart and soul; by his words, by his own hand he will someday come to dig his own grave.'* (12)

**Then:**

*'According to her own writers, teachers and statesmen Germany has but one great reason for existing; that of achieving world-dominion! Since that is its highest aim, therefore, Germany constantly claims that it has every right to make free and liberal use of chicanery, deceit, intolerance, lust, persecution and oppression, in order to achieve that goal. Consequently such a perverted nation, such a State of human negation, views its vice as being the only true virtue in life, whereas to the Germans the virtues as they are known and may be practised by the rest of the world are merely vices due to the latter's decay and degeneration! As though there exists anywhere in the world a nation which can boast of degeneration in the same degree as Germany!'* (13)

**Then:**

*'Germanism -- the theory of a master race of Germans destined to enslave a weak world by force and brutality -- had been an unvoiced doctrine of German belief since tribal days until the latter part of the last century when it reached its maturity by becoming fashioned into a vast and well-organized movement. Its astounding and ambitious program amalgamated all the major doctrines and beliefs of such German teachers, writers, statesmen and philosophers as Kant, Nietzsche, Hegel, von Bernhardt, Rohrbach, Treitschke and Spengler. And because the doctrine which it preached touched upon the very roots of the German soul, and embraced the fundamental tenets of the German intellect, the movement met with immediate and tremendously popular response. In fact its*

*program was so popular with the Germans that within ten years after its inception its malignant dogma was already spread throughout the entire world.'* (14)

### **Then:**

*'Treitschke was a war-monger and a "might makes right" advocate of the first rank. Possessing a natural gift of eloquence he held his students spellbound during his lectures on "conquer at all costs" for, according to his interpretation of Germany's development and history, it had to pursue such a course in order to spread itself beyond its boundaries. At first he set Europe as the area of Germany's "Lebenstraum" but, after the success of the German army in 1870 he enlarged and expanded upon his original declaration by stating that the world was Germany's to conquer and dominate; that through foisting war upon the world the German nation was destined to become the "super-state" of the universe, and to hold its people in thralldom. These teachings so appealed to the German character that Treitschke, like Hitler, soon captured the intellectuals as well as the masses of his day. His doctrines were spread throughout Germany by his many pupils until, eventually, practically every educated German of that day fell under his influence. Conceivably, he could not have inspired such a profound belief in such monstrous doctrines unless, in substance, they embraced aims and ideas already very definitely existing as inherent in the German character and innate in his soul. Many of those beliefs explain much of Germany's present actions.'* (15)

Kaufman then moves on to tell his readers why re-educating the Germans would not be possible.

To wit:

*'Re-educate the younger generation?*

*Even were such a vast program put into operation it is highly doubtful whether it would be worth the effort, or achieve its objective. The soul is a greater and infinitely more powerful force than the brain. And the martial characteristics of the German are linked indelibly with his spirit and have become an integral part of his soul. Some day that war-soul would again come to dominate his brain.'* (16)

Kaufman's resulting recommendation is as follows:

*'Compel the German population of the apportioned territories to learn the language of its area, and within one year to cease the publication of all books, newspapers and notices in the German language, as well as to restrict German-language broadcasts and discontinue the maintenance of German-language schools.'* (17)

Now compare this to points A and B of Morgenthau's fifth recommendation.

To wit:



*'All schools and universities will be closed until an Allied*

*(a) Commission of Education has formulated an effective reorganization program. It is contemplated that it may require a considerable period of time before any institutions of higher education are reopened. Meanwhile the education of German students in foreign universities will not be prohibited. Elementary schools will be reopened as quickly as appropriate teachers and textbooks are available.*

*(b) All German radio stations and newspapers, magazines, weeklies, etc. shall be discontinued until adequate controls are established and an appropriate program formulated.'* (18)

Kaufman once again rejects the policy of re-educating the German people because; like with his rejection of an international armed force policing Germany, he does not see the scope of such a proposal to be realistic. This is partially to do with the time that Kaufman was writing once again in that such a proposal would seem rather; shall we say, mild to Kaufman's primarily Jewish audience so near the apex of German military power and with their ears filled with stories of alleged German atrocities against the Jews.

The other reason is ideological in that; as Kaufman himself tells us, he does not believe that the '*German problem*' has anything to do with how Germans are educated (i.e. Germanism does not emanate from rational thought i.e. '*the brain*'), but rather it is an innate characteristic of the Germans (i.e. Germanism emanates from the German soul and thus requires the physical destruction of the Germans to expunge).

Morgenthau however disagrees with this and sees the problem as primarily one of re-educating the Germans to which purposes he once again turns Kaufman's rejected proposal into practical policy. He essentially adds the policy steps required to facilitate Kaufman's rejected idea into being a now practicable policy.

Kaufman's actual recommendation is interesting precisely because we should note that in it Kaufman sets out the policy of the deculturalization of the German people by inserting the culture of Germany's neighbours over them.

This is taken by Morgenthau as the unstated basis of his sixth recommendation (to split Germany up into three areas of governance by different Allied powers) which ensures the socio-political element of the cultural domination is in place to allow it to be affected, while points A and B of the fifth recommendation provide the basis of how this cultural domination should be achieved by preventing any German publications whatsoever. Thus meaning that all German publications would have to be printed and brought in from abroad that would in turn mean that the publications were filled with the culture of the relevant Allied power.

This would ensure that the Germans were de-culturalized and then re-culturalized by the exposure to the culture of relevant Allied powers, which Kaufman recommended and Morgenthau put into practice.

We should note that Morgenthau's changes in his ideas on the re-education from the Germans do have a different ideological assumption driving them (i.e. that the material is what matters not the national spirit [or more put more succinctly the ideological difference between Kaufman as a Jewish nationalist and Morgenthau as a left-leaning liberal]) but that most Morgenthau's changes are merely cosmetic to Kaufman's rejected idea as well as his actual recommendation.

### References

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[\[http://semiticcontroversies.blogspot.co.uk/2013/06/the-origin-of-morgenthau-plan-in.html\]](http://semiticcontroversies.blogspot.co.uk/2013/06/the-origin-of-morgenthau-plan-in.html)
- (2) Theodor Nathan Kaufman, 1941, *'Germany Must Perish!'*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Argyle Press: Newark, Ch. 1; as I have no print copy of this rare work I have used that available at Wikisource ([http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Germany\\_Must\\_Perish](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Germany_Must_Perish) [\[http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Germany\\_Must\\_Perish\]](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Germany_Must_Perish) ) which has no pagination. Thus I will refer to chapters rather than pages.
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